Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.


This report represents Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.’s responses to Charting Impact, a joint project of BBB Wise Giving Alliance, GuideStar USA Inc, and Independent Sector. Charting Impact uses five simple yet powerful questions to encourage strategic thinking and help organizations share concise information about their plans and progress toward impact.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PO Box 414, St Petersburg, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33731</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>727-895-4912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="https://www.casa-stpete.org">https://www.casa-stpete.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mission:**
CASA's vision is a community without violence so that home is a safe place. CASA's mission is to raise our voices against violence through advocacy, empowerment and social change.

The content of this Charting Impact Report is the sole product and responsibility of Community Action Stops Abuse, Inc. This report does not in any way represent an endorsement from Independent Sector, BBB Wise Giving Alliance, or GuideStar, nor does it represent fulfillment of the BBB Wise Giving Alliance's Standards for Charity Accountability. For more information on Charting Impact, visit www.guidestar.org/chartingimpact
1. What are we aiming to accomplish?

To provide safe, emergency shelter to persons fleeing domestic violence and their children. This includes bed, food, clothing, personal items, transportation, supportive counseling, safety planning, legal advocacy, information and referral for local community services, assistance to transition to safe, permanent housing, etc. To provide the above services to persons not residing in the emergency shelter. To provide a 24-hour hotline for crisis intervention, information and referral, and safety planning. To provide holistic in-school curriculum empowering youth to live peaceful lives by learning alternatives to violence, problem solving, conflict resolution, diversity awareness, safety, and caring for the environment. To provide services to families identified through the Pinellas County's Child Protective Investigative Department. To raise public awareness of the danger and prevalence of domestic violence; and of the programs and services available to help end those dangers. To provide training to professionals in law enforcement, health care, and other services in order to promote social change and end the cycle of violence.

2. What are our strategies for making this happen?

CASA is strategically building a culture of philanthropy throughout the organization and our community. We coordinate the efforts of staff, volunteers, committees, the Board of Directors and our allied CASA Foundation. This allows us to maintain and enhance the success and breadth of services we offer, provide community advocacy, promote financial sustainability and foster partnerships that create lasting changes in our community. More specifically, CASA: A. Maintains a roster of highly effective staff with specialized skills needed in order to accomplishing CASA’s goals. This includes paid employees who provide the professional, reliable and consistent support needed in order to run effective programs achieving our mission; and volunteers who are utilized and trained to supplement our paid staff and reduce operational costs B. Runs a community outreach office so that people in any stage of domestic violence can get help. This includes those currently in an abusive relationship, people in the process of escaping their abuser and those who are dealing with the physical, logistical and emotional aftermaths of abuse. C. Operates an emergency shelter for domestic violence survivors facing extreme danger. Shelter participants are provided food, clothing, personal care items and other assistance at no cost. They also have access to our many programs helping them obtain lasting safety and prosperity once the move out of the shelter. D. Runs the area’s 24-hour domestic violence hotline. E. Develops community partnerships so that we can accomplish our goals without recreating effective resources already available in the community. As part of this, we provide training to professionals in law enforcement, health care, corporations and other organization in order to promote social change and end the cycle of violence. F. Provides Pinellas County schools specialized teachers and curriculum promoting non-violence, healthy communication, anti-bullying, online safety and the prevention of teen dating violence. G. Coordinate with the county’s CPI unit and court system to provide services to persons they identify as being able to benefit from our help.

3. What are our organization’s capabilities for doing this?

CASA is a very well managed non-profit which has provided a wide range of services for domestic violence and their children since 1977. CASA is one of 42 certified domestic violence centers in the state of Florida. The agency is nationally and internationally recognized for its “best practice” programs. CASA is monitored by several federal, state and local funding agencies each year with excellent monitoring results, in addition to receiving clean financial audits each year. CASA has interagency agreements with numerous local agencies/business. In addition, CASA staff members participate on numerous coalitions and committees. All leadership staff members have taken leadership training and all direct service staff have completed a minimum of CORE domestic violence training as required by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence. CASA’s current services include an emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, a 24-hour crisis hotline, support groups, youth programs, substance abuse advocacy, information and referral program, legal advocacy, outreach to under-served communities, thrift shop, and peacemakers program to pre-school, elementary and middle school students. CASA provides community education and professional training on domestic violence for thousands of health care, legal, and education
professionals each year. An extensive client data base system and trained staff provide the means to collect excellent in-depth data on those receiving services and the type of services provided. Utilizing this information, allows CASA to analyze trends and populations needs to ensure that the best possible services are provided. This also allows CASA management staff to allocate the resources where most needed in terms of meeting the needs of the victims in need of services.

4. How will we know if we're making progress?

A. Financial stability of the organization including both restricted and un-restricted income versus expenses; assets/liabilities; annual audit; increase of online donations B. Program versus administrative expense C. Program Services provided and number of domestic violence survivors and their children D. Staff trained E. Staff turnover F. Number of survivors leaving the residential program that have increased their education, income and/or found safe housing H. Performance Quality Improvement Team reports and recommendations I. Quality of services from participant feedback from exit interviews and focus groups J. Board training K. 100% of Board of Directors members contribute financial support

5. What have and haven't we accomplished so far?

A new 100-bed emergency shelter has been built and is housing survivors and their families. Additional grants have been made to provide for assistance when survivors are ready to move into permanent, safe housing. Net proceeds from CASA Thrift Shoppe continue to increase. Board members have been trained and very involved in fundraising efforts. The Board Fund Development committee has been rejuvenated and is very active in expanding their membership and conducting successful and diversified events. The CASA Foundation was established in 2012. CASA has enhanced its Development Department and fundraising capabilities.